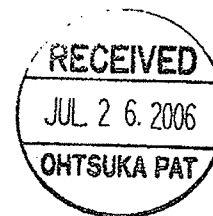


PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)



Applicant's or agent's file reference P205-0115WO	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416 </div>	
International application No. PCT/JP2005/007282	International filing date (day/month/year) 08.04.2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 19.04.2004
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int.Cl. G06F13/00 (2006.01), G06F3/12 (2006.01)		
Applicant CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA		

1.	This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.
3.	This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a total of <u>8</u> sheets, as follows: <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. </div> </div> <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> b. <input type="checkbox"/> a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions). </div>
4.	This report contains indications relating to the following items: <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application </div>

Date of submission of the demand 03.02.2006	Date of completion of this report 13.07.2006
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP Japan Patent Office 3-4-3, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8915, Japan	Authorized officer <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 5px;">5I</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 5px;">3457</div> </div> Yoshihiko Yoshida Telephone No. +81-3-3581-1101 Ext. 3565

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/007282

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on:

- ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
- ☐ a translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4(a))
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished

☒ the description:

pages 1-34 as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the claims:

Nos. 2-8, 11 as originally filed/furnished

Nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

Nos.* 1, 9-10, 12-23 received by this Authority on 03.02.2006

Nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the drawings:

~~sheets~~/figs 1-12 as originally filed/furnished

sheets/figs* _____ received by this Authority on _____

sheets/figs* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/007282

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-23 ✓	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-23	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-23	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations(Rule 70.7)

Document1:JP 2003-006133 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA) 10.01.2003,
[0005] ,[0079] -[0092] ,fig 4
& US 2002/0156947 A1, [0006] ,[0097] -[0114] ,fig 2
Document2:JP 2004-078359 A (NIIGATA CANOTECH KABUSIKI KAISHA)
11.03.2004, [0080] , Fig 14 (Family: none)
Document3:JP 2000-181656 A (FUJI XEROX KABUSIKI KAISHA)
30.06.2000, [0003] (Family: none)

The proxy server disclosed in Document1 can act as an intermediary between the client PC and printer, which can handle the SNMP protocol but can't handle the UPnP protocol.

Document1 also discloses the installation technique of drivers (see S13-20).

The print server disclosed in Document2 can show a multifunctional device as a plurality of devices corresponding to each function.

The gateway disclosed in Document3 can convert a protocol between clients and I/O devices (printer, scanner, and so on).

All of the documents listed above are concerned with the device management system and the skilled person in the art would easily conceive the idea of applying the technical feature disclosed in Document 2,3 to the invention disclosed in Document1.

Thus, the subject matter of claim 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23 has no inventive steps over Document 1, 2 and the subject matter of claim 2, 3, 12, 13 has no inventive steps over Document 1, 2, 3.

The exclusion method disclosed in claim 6, 16 isn't disclosed in above documents, but it would be trivial for the skilled person in the art to prevent duplicate storing.

The responding method based on printer languages disclosed in claim 8, 18, 20, 22 isn't disclosed clearly in above documents, but the printer language is the one of the most important functions of printers and the skilled person in the art could easily select which kind of function to use.

Thus the subject matter of claim 6, 8, 16, 18, 20, 22 has no inventive steps over Document 1, 2.